UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/48/11/Add.1
6 May 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-eighth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 123

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

United Nations telecommunications system

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

1. An amount of $2,853,900 was requested in the proposed programme budget for 1994-1995 under section 30, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, for equipment and related requirements for the installation of satellite Earth stations at various locations in connection with the United Nations telecommunications system proposed in document A/C.5/48/11. The General Assembly provisionally deleted this amount (resolutions 48/228 and 48/231) as it did not consider the financing of the global telecommunications system for the United Nations.

2. The present addendum updates information on the timetable for the implementation of the project, including its impact on the cost estimates submitted in document A/C.5/48/11; updates the cost parameters to those applied to the programme budget for 1994-1995; and updates information on other factors.

A. Implementation timetable

3. Since the preparation of the last report, phase 1 of the project has been completed. A request for proposals for the acquisition of Earth stations and related equipment has been prepared. During the 1994-1995 biennium, the implementation timetable would be as follows.

Phase 2: September 1994-July 1995

4. During the second phase of the project, Earth stations would be installed in Europe, Addis Ababa and Bangkok; the Earth station at New York would be upgraded. Prior to the award of the contract, action would be taken for the recruitment of core staff in each of these locations. To strengthen the operation at Headquarters, two technicians at the General Service principal level would be required.

Phase 3: August-December 1995

5. During this period, action would be taken for the recruitment of two senior technicians at the Field Service level, one each for the satellite and the switching units, and four local level staff at Addis Ababa and Bangkok and the remaining staff for the European hub station. The Earth stations at Amman, Santiago and Nairobi would be installed. Action would be taken for the recruitment of staff at those duty stations.

B. Proposed funding of the network

6. As shown in the annex to the present addendum, the total 1994-1995 cost is now estimated at $16,928,100, of which $8,312,400 would be funded by the regular budget and $8,615,700 from contributions from peace-keeping missions' budgets.

7. Of the total regular budget share ($8,312,400), $5,250,600 would be met from existing resources and an additional amount of $3,061,800 would be required. The funds requested for the acquisition of the satellite Earth station and related costs under section 30, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance ($2,754,800), were provisionally deleted, pending consideration of the budget on the global telecommunications network. Consideration of the proposal to reclassify a P-3 post at the United Nations Office at Geneva to the P-4 level was deferred by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, which will reconsider it on the basis of a resubmission of the Secretary-General (see A/48/7, para. 63).

8. Should the General Assembly approve the proposed United Nations enhanced telecommunications system, the additional requirement of $2,754,800 under section 30 would constitute a reinstatement of the Secretary-General's initial request rather than an addition to the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

9. In addition, as indicated in the table below, four new General Service posts would be required under section 25, Administration and management, for the 1994-1995 biennium: two at the principal level at Headquarters in New York and two General Service other level (one at the United Nations Office at Geneva and one at Headquarters in New York). The related cost is estimated at $307,000.

	Total posts required	To be met from existing resources	Contribution from peace-keeping	New regular budget posts required
P-5	1	(1)	-	-
P-4	6	-	(5)	1
P-3	1	(2)	-	(1)
GS (Princ.)	3	(1)	-	2
GS (Other)	7	(5)	-	2
Field Service	16	(16)	-	-
Local level	20	-	(20)	-
Total	54	(25)	(25)	4

10. In addition, an amount of $99,400 would be required under section 28, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under Income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

Annex

UNITED NATIONS ENHANCED TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

(Estimated 1994-1995 cost and proposed funding)

(In thousands of United States dollars)

	Total 1994-1995 costs	Regular budget			Contributions from peace-keeping
		Total	To be met from existing resources	Required from the regular budget	
Recurrent costs					
Posts	3 409.5	2 656.1	(2 349.1)	307.0	753.4
Other staff costs	1 135.5	1 135.5	(1 135.5)	-	-
Satellite leases	3 643.8	631.5	(631.5)	-	3 012.3
Total, recurrent	8 188.8	4 423.1	(4 116.1)	307.0	3 765.7
Earth stations					
Geneva	1 850.0	-	-	-	1 850.0
Addis Ababa	479.3	479.3	(479.3)	-	-
Bangkok	535.2	535.2	(535.2)	-	-
Santiago	570.1	570.1	-	570.1	-
Amman	397.7	397.7	-	397.7	-
Nairobi	579.3	579.3	-	579.3	-
New York (upgrade)	500.0	-	-	-	500.0
15 portable	1 500.0	-	-	-	1 500.0
Site preparation	480.0	480.0	(120.0)	360.0	-
Subtotal	6 891.6	3 041.6	(1 134.5)	1 907.1	3 850.0
Other costs					
System integration and installation	1 755.0	755.0	-	755.0	1 000.0
Factory training	41.2	41.2	-	41.2	-
Travel	51.5	51.5	-	51.5	-
Subtotal	1 847.7	847.7	-	847.7	1 000.0
Total, non-recurrent	8 739.3	3 889.3	(1 134.5)	2 754.8	4 850.0
Total, 1994-1995	16 928.1	8 312.4	(5 250.6)	3 061.8	8 615.7